

Mint of the United States

AT PHILADELPHIA.

October 3rd 1879.

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden,
Superintendent.

Sir;

I have the honor to state that great difficulty has been experienced in working Dollar Sugots, manufactured from Mexican Dollars.

The Sugots do not appear to be solid, but porous - and frequently in the breakdown they show brittleness.

The annealing of the strips develops blisters all over the surface, and it is often necessary to cut up and return for remelting, a great deal of material that if used would largely augment our deliveries of coin.

For instance, take the
lot

lot of Ingots delivered September 30th
and worked yesterday. These weighed
os 147.401, and were largely composed
of Mexican Dollars. Nine (9) per
cent (os 13.525⁴⁰), of the entire amount
has been returned as useless, owing to
blisters and brittleness.

I do not think all this
trouble should be attributed to the
silver of which the Mexican Dollars
are composed. Trouble is found
in working Ingots made from other
silver. Indeed the lot being worked
today, is said to have been made
entirely from clippings, and from ap-
pearances the proportion of bad metal
will be as great, and probably greater
than the lot already referred to.

I do not pretend to say
how an Ingot can be cast so that it

is solid, but I do say that if solid ingots are supplied there will be no trouble in working them. It is well known amongst the men who handle the ingots that brittle metal and blistered strips, come from ingots that are not solid.

I may add incidentally that the labor entailed on this Department is in no wise represented by the amount of coin produced. I think at least six (6) per cent more labor was expended upon the coinage of last month, than the result in Dallas shows - in other words, had the ingots used last month been solid, and composed of good metal, the production would have been at least six (6) per cent greater.

Very Respectfully J. B. Sewt

Q. C. Baskin

Conrad

760 1/2

Q. C. Bosbyshell
Coiner

Oct. 3. 1879

Reports great
difficulty in
working dollar
ingots from Mex-
ican dollars

Recd Oct 3/79

[Abstract:] Reports great difficulty in working dollar ingots from Mexican Dollars. 760 ½

Coiner's Department.

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia.
October 3, 1879

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden,
Superintendent.

Sir;

I have the honor to state that great difficulty has been experienced in working Dollar Ingots, manufactured from Mexican Dollars.

The Ingots do not appear to be solid, but porous – and frequently in the breakdown they show brittleness. The annealing of the strips develop blisters all over the surface, and it is often necessary to cut up and return for remelting, a great deal of material that if used would largely augment our deliveries of coin.

For instance, take the lot of Ingots delivered September 30th and worked yesterday. These weighed ozs. 147.401, and were largely composed of Mexican Dollars. Nine (9) per cent (ozs. 13.525.40), of the entire amount has been returned as useless, owing to blisters and brittleness.

I do not think all this trouble should be attributed to the silver of which the Mexican Dollars are composed. Trouble is formed in working Ingots made from other silver. Indeed the lot being worked today, is said to have been made entirely from Clippings, and from appearances the proportion of bad metal will be as great, and probably greater than the lot already referred to.

I do not pretend to say how an Ingot can be cast so that it is solid, but I do say that if solid Ingots are supplied there will be no trouble in working them. It is well known amongst the men who handle the ingots, that brittle metal and blistered strips, came from Ingots that are not solid.

I may add incidentally that the labor entailed on this Department is in no wise represented by the amount of coin produced. I think at least six (6) per cent more labor was expended upon the coinage of last month, than the result in Dollars shows – in other words, had the Ingots used last month been solid, and composed of good metal, the production would have been at least six (6) per cent greater.

Very Respectfully Yr. Obt. Servt.
O.C. Bosbyshell
Coiner